

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's Action dated April 15, 2004 and pursuant to the telephonic conference between Examiner and Applicant's representative. As indicated by Applicant's representative during the telephonic conference, Applicant has amended the claims herein to more completely recite key features of the invention provided within the specification and clarify features recited by the claims. No new matter has been added, and the amendments overcome the claim rejections and place the claims in better condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments to the claims. The discussion provided below, overcoming the claim rejections, reference the claims in their amended form.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

At paragraph 2 of the present Office Action, Claims 5, 7, 11-14, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over *Rizzo, et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,470,330). *Rizzo* does not suggest several key features provided by Applicant's invention and recited by Applicant's claims. *Rizzo*, in fact, fails to any of the features that have been added or clarified by the present amendments.

Applicant's claimed invention provides a database/depository that stores documents generated by an E-commerce transaction. The database is independent of the server and client that complete the transaction and the database generates an ID for the document that if being stored therein. This ID (generated at the database and not at the server during the transaction) may be separate/different from the transaction ID (which is also provided/described within the specification). Notably, the server or client may subscribe to the database to enable the storage of E-commerce generated documents at the server or client, respectively.

Rizzo does not suggest any of the following features recited by Applicant's claims:

- (1) means for automatically receiving an electronic document dynamically generated ...
at an E-commerce server ... independent of the electronic database, whereby said

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electronic document stored at said electronic database cannot be modified by either party to the E-commerce transaction;

- (2) means for generating a document identifier (ID) ... at said database;
- (3) means for enabling client subscription to said database,...enabling a client to store electronic documents/contracts generated by e-commerce transactions ..., whereby the electronic documents/contracts are automatically transmitted to the database from the server at which the E-commerce transaction is completed;
- (4) means for enabling server subscription to said depository, said server subscription enabling a server application to store, at said depository, electronic documents/contracts generated by e-commerce transactions ... automatically transmitted to the depository from the server at which the E-commerce transaction is completed; and
- (5) means for time-limiting said stored E-commerce generated electronic documents ...; and means for removing said electronic documents/contracts from said depository after a preset time period has elapsed since the electronic document was stored.

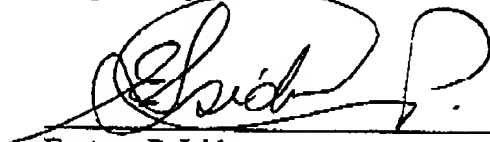
Applicant has reviewed *Rizzo* and finds *Rizzo* to be devoid of any reference of any of the above features recited by Applicant's claims. Notably, Examiner provides no specific reference within *Rizzo* that would suggest to one skilled in the art the above list of features recited by Applicant's claims. For these reasons, one skilled in the art would not find Applicant's invention obvious in light of *Rizzo*. Applicant's claims are therefore allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has diligently responded to the Office Action by amending the claims and pointing out specific features within the claims that are not suggested by *Rizzo* or common knowledge in the art. The amendments and arguments overcome the §103 rejection, and Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all claims now pending.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record at 512.343.6116 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,



Eustace P. Isidore
Registered with Limited Recognition (see attached)
Dillon & Yudell LLP
8911 North Capital of Texas Highway
Suite 2110
Austin, Texas 78759
512.343.6116

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

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